still waiting for promotion in the absence of passing final examination from Institute of Surveyors;

(d) whether Government proposed to reconsider this case on merit; and

(e) if not, why?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) As per existing Recruitment Rules (RRs), Assistant Surveyor of Works (ASWs) having 04 years regular service in the grade and having passed Final Examination of the Institution of Surveyors (India) (ISI) are eligible for promotion to the grade of Surveyor of Works (SW). There are 05 ASWs, who although having the requisite eligibility service for promotion are not educationally qualified as per the RRs. To hold this grade of Surveyors RRs are being suitably revised.

Illegal construction in Kanpur Cantonment Area

4415. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that unlawful and illegal constructions are going on in the military land in the Kanpur Cantonment area causing heavy financial loss;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to stop such illegal construction for commercial use including one being done at Pandit's Upvan Mahatma Gandhi Park, Kanpur Cantonment;

(c) what action has been taken against the local defaulting officials of the Military land and Cantonment Board at Kanpur; and

(d) the time by when Government proposed to demolish such illegal constructions there?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):

Statement

Regarding illegal construction in Kanpur Cantonment Area

(a) to (d) As many as 29 cases of unauthorized constructions were detected during the last one year. Prosecution action has already been taken under Section 184, 185 and 256 of the Cantonments Act, 1924, for removal of these illegal constructions. These unauthorized constructions have not caused any financial loss.

No case of unauthorized construction for commercial purposes has been detected during the last one year. Pandit's Upvan, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Kanpur, is a Cantonment Fund Property given on licence by the Cantonment Board, Kanpur. Some repairs/renovation of the premises were carried out to the premises by the licensee with the permission of the Cantonment Board.

No Cantonment Board official is at fault.

No time frame has been fixed for demolition of such illegal constructions as action against these can only be taken subject to availability of police assistance, etc.

Resignation of Air Marshal Manjit Singh Sekhon

4416. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Air Marshal Manjit Singh Sekhon has been asked to put in his papers by the Air Force Chief;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefore;

(c) whether Air Marshal Sekhon has since complied with this directive; and

(d) if fiot, what steps have been taken/are proposed to be taken with regard to the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Subsequent to the report published in the media regarding Air Marshal Manjit Singh Sekhon having approached the then Chief